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House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. GUTKNECHT].

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

February 4, 1997.

I hereby designate the Honorable GIL GUTKNECHT to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING BUSINESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 21, 1997, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 30 minutes, and each Member except the majority and minority leader limited to not to exceed 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Mexico [Mr. RICHARDSON] for 5 minutes.

TRIBUTE TO FRANK TEJEDA, BRYANT GUMBEL, AND J.C. WATTS

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, today I want to speak about three individuals, one Hispanic-American and two African-Americans: First, our departed colleague, FRANK TEJEDA who passed away courageously and with great dignity last week in his hometown of San Antonio, TX.

Congressman TEJEDA was a man of great dignity and distinction, but what made FRANK special was his quiet and unpretentious manner despite his distinguished accomplishments. Not only

will he be remembered for his admirable courage as a Vietnam veteran and a scholarly education at Harvard and Yale, but FRANK's true dedication and allegiance to the people of the 28th Congressional District of Texas will remain in the hearts and minds of his constituency.

In fact, whenever there was an issue affecting his district or whenever we needed a vote from FRANK TEJEDA, he would always say two words: Wilson County. Whenever he saw me on the House floor and we were trying to get a vote out of FRANK, this is what he wanted in return: his district, his people, the kind of allegiance and representation a good Member of Congress always shows. His relentless efforts to save Kelly Air Force Base will remain on the minds of every Member.

I will miss FRANK TEJEDA, as many of us will, especially when he stood or sat next to the gentleman from Texas, SOLOMON ORTIZ, as he always did on the House floor. These two were inseparable. FRANK's spirit will forever remain within the walls of this Chamber and within the hearts of all who knew him.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to rise in tribute to Bryant Gumbel. I wish to extend my enthusiastic congratulations to Bryant Gumbel, who has departed the "Today Show" after serving as its anchor for longer than anyone in the show's long, distinguished history.

The Emmy Award winner has excelled at bringing news and insight to millions of viewers here and around the world. His reporting has come not just from the studios in Rockefeller Center, but also from China, Australia, Moscow, Cairo, Tunisia, Buenos Aires, Havana, Saudi Arabia during the Persian Gulf war, a number of European cities, and the Olympic games.

I think one of Bryant Gumbel's most enduring contributions to his industry and, more importantly, to his country is a significant contribution to shatter-

ing the insidious barriers that once confronted African-Americans and other minorities in tuition broadcasting. He helped bring the change by being the best, both in sports and in news coverage. For that historic and proud achievement, we are all in his debt.

I am confident that his future plans, whatever they may be, will include a continuing contribution to his community and his country. Whether these plans include award-winning broadcasts like those he anchored from Africa, raising funds for the United Negro Fund, or quietly lifting the spirits of young people aspiring to be better, I know that Bryant Gumbel will be making this country a better place.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to the gentleman from Oklahoma [Mr. WATTS], our colleague, who will deliver the answer to the President's State of the Union Address.

There will be two eloquent speakers tonight, the President of course and J.C. WATTS. They will differ in views, but one of the sad parts of my job is that I will miss individuals not just on my side, but on the Republican side, like J.C. WATTS, that show class, commitment, dignity, outstanding athletic ability, and many other admirable qualities.

So, today, I want to pay tribute to FRANK TEJEDA, Congressman TEJEDA, who departed us last week; to Bryant Gumbel, an African-American who pioneered broadcasting and journalism, and to say that I will be one of the millions watching tonight the eloquence of two men and the grace of two men, President Clinton and our friend J.C. WATTS.

REINTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO END GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWNS FOREVER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 21, 1997, the gentleman from

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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